(b) to (h) First phase of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) project is aimed to cover 35,000 Ayurvedic formulations covering about 60,000 shlokas. So far 34,500 formulations have been transcribed. Checking and re-checking is being done by the experts. The project was scheduled to be completed by October, 2002. However, as per progress of the work, it is expected to be completed by August, 2003.

The number of accessible pages of the website will be known on completion of the project. A committee is working on the modalities of access to the Traditional Knowledge Digital Library website.

Construction of Vallar Padam Container Terminal

*267. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalized the company which is to undertake the construction of Vallar Padam Container Terminal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Quality standards for bottled drinking water

*270. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Technical Committee of the Bureau of Indian Standards has decided not to adopt the stringent European Union norms as the quality standards for bottled drinking water and mineral water in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution had in a recent communication to the Ministry urged to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules with a view to pave the way for implementation of EU quality norms for safe drinking water and mineral water; and

(c) if so, the procedure followed by the Ministry to adopt the said norms?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a)to (c) No, Sir. The Director General of Bureau of Indian Standards has requested this Ministry to amend the specifications of Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water in line with the amendment carried out in BIS specifications.

The Bureau of Indian Standards have now proposed as follows:—

(i) To revise the methods of analysis to use Internationally Established Test Methods which could detect proposed residue limits.

(ii) To prescribe the maximum residue limits of Pesticides in Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water as follows:—

(a) Pesticide residues considered individually — 0.0001 mg/litre

(b) Total pesticide residues — 0.0005 mg/litre

(iii) The manufactures shall produce a No Objection Certificate from the Central Government/State Government Ground Water Authority for obtaining BIS Certificate.

Since Packaged Drinking Water is under Compulsory Certification Scheme of BIS, there is a necessity to harmonise the standards prescribed under PFA Rules with the standards amended by BIS. Accordingly, a draft notification for inviting comments from Public to amend the standards of Packaged Drinking Water and Mineral Water under PFA Rules, 1955, as recommended by BIS, has been issued *vide* GSR No. 111(E) dated 18.2.2003. Thirty days have been given for receiving Public comments.

Emergence of southern States as economic powerhouse

*271. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala have emerged as the economic powerhouse of the country;